

PRESS RELEASE

"Boy Meets Gun" wins two awards: the popular jury and the student jury awards
The short film "ventiseisettembre2020" by the *I Beati Poli* team wins the Lucca 48 prize

**Cinema: "Murmur", on the drama of loneliness,
is the best film of the Lucca Film Festival e Europa Cinema competition**

"Anche gli uomini hanno fame", a story of poverty in Salento between the 60s and 70s, by Francesco Lorusso, Gabriele Licchelli and Andrea Settembrini wins the Best Short Film award

The award for Best Costumes for **Effetto Cinema Notte** went to "Lebowski - Cocktail Bar" (piazza San Michele) with their "Alice in Wonderland", by Tim Burton (2010).

Lucca, 4th October – "**Murmur**" by Heather Young, the directorial debut of the young Canadian filmmaker, wins the **Best Film award in the International Feature Film Competition of the Lucca Film Festival e Europa Cinema**. The prize (€ 3,000) was awarded by the jury composed of directors and actors **Claudio Giovannesi, Anita Kravos, Daniele Cipri, Massimo Gaudioso** and **Roberta Mastromichele**. The awards were given during the award ceremony held at Astra cinema on 3rd October.

"For the director's ability - the jury explains - to tell, with extreme rigor and without any artifice, the inadequacy of living and the stubbornness not to accept a predestined existence".

The **Popular Jury Award** went to **Joost van Hezik's "Boy Meets Gun"**, which also won the **Student Jury Award**. *"It is able - as the student jury explains - to shoot the viewer inside a magnetic story, made even more compelling by the power of the musical accompaniment, by the tragicomic irony and by an original script that - net of the quotes - manages to create a whirlwind of unexpected situations that lead to a surprising ending"*. In this film the Dutch director tells the story of Marteen Moreau, a university professor who has lost interest in everything and lives a life that he finds repetitive and boring, until he finds a gun lost by a robber and his life changes forever.

The **Best Short Film award** (€ 500), assigned by the jury composed of **Alberto Tempi, Amelia Nanni, Arianna Lodeserto and Jonas Schnyder**, is "**Anche gli uomini hanno fame**" by Francesco Lorusso, Gabriele Licchelli, Andrea Settembrini: a story of poverty in Salento between the 60s and 70s. *"Salento – as we read in the official motivation - before its so-called tourist 'invention' was a very poor land. A narrow landscape, made of escapes or waits, restored with rigor and poetry in this archival research. A reverse postcard - misty, vertical and not counterfeit - showing the hermetic portrait of a bar that still exists and of the people who lived there, left, arrived: a whole life devoted to the most painful work. In the duels with village life, there is also a cinema in the garden. For the look, photography and synthesis, "Anche gli uomini hanno fame" by Francesco Lorusso, Gabriele Licchelli and Andrea Settembrini wins as best short film"*.

Special mentions in the Short Film section went to Patrícia Sobreiro's "**A Janela**" and Geena Jung's "**I heard silence from her**".

The **Best Short Film award for the student jury** was assigned to "**Nunca te dejé sola**" by Mireia Noguera with the following motivation: *"For the delicate strength with which the images represent the memories and traumas of the protagonists, for the director's awareness in creating mechanisms of tension by playing with technique, for the ability to spark empathy in the viewer"*.

During the award ceremony, two other prizes were also awarded, **Effetto Cinema Notte** and **Lucca 48**. The **Best Costumes Award for Effetto Cinema Notte**, sponsored by Confcommercio Lucca and Massa Carrara, went to "**Lebowski - Cocktail Bar**" (Piazza San Michele) with "Alice in Wonderland", by Tim Burton (2010).

The **Lucca 48** prize, a film contest aimed at first-time filmmakers, where participants were required to make a short film in 48 hours, was awarded to "**ventiseisettembre2020**" by the team "I Beati Poli". On that occasion, the **Sofidel award**, sponsor of Lucca48 within the Lucca Film Festival and Europa Cinema 2020, was also awarded to "**Unrolling the Future - The Sustainability Short Film Award**", assigned to the short film that distinguished itself in representing sustainability-related topics.

Lucca Film Festival e Europa Cinema

Throughout the years, **Lucca Film Festival e Europa Cinema**, presided by Nicola Borrelli, has paid homage to some of the biggest personalities in the industries, such as **Oliver Stone, David Lynch, Rutger Hauer, George Romero, Paolo Sorrentino and Willem Dafoe**. It is an annual event that aspires to promote and celebrate cinematic culture; its audience grows bigger and bigger every year. **Lucca Film Festival e Europa Cinema** is one of the leading events organized and promoted by Fondazione Cassa di Risparmio di Lucca. Banca Generali Private and Banca Pictet are the festival's main Sponsors and the exhibitions are supported by Société générale. The festival is also supported by Fondazione Banca del Monte di Lucca, Sofidel, ICare, Martinelli Luce, Wella, Lions Club Lucca Le Mura, Luccaorganizza, Il Ciocco S.p.A, Cantina Campo alle Comete, Ministero dei Beni e delle Attività Culturali e del Turismo, Regione Toscana, Fondazione Sistema Toscana, Toscana Promozione, Comune di Lucca and Comune di Viareggio. It is also co-produced by Provincia di Lucca, Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights Italia, Teatro del Giglio di Lucca, Fondazione Giacomo Puccini e Puccini Museum - Casa Natale, Fondazione Festival Pucciniano, Fondazione Carlo Ludovico Ragghianti, Università degli Studi di Firenze, Accademia di Belle Arti di Carrara, CNA Cinema e Audiovisivo Toscana, Istituto Luigi Boccherini and Liceo Artistico Musicale e Coreutico Augusto Passaglia. We would also like to thank Federazione Italiana Teatro Amatori (FITA), A.C.S.I. Associazione Centri Sportivi Italiani, Lucca Comics & Games, la Direzione Regionale di Trenitalia, Unicoop Firenze, Confcommercio delle Provincia di Lucca, Provincia di Massa Carrara, the degree course in *Discipline dello Spettacolo e della Comunicazione* of the *Civiltà e Forme del Sapere* department of the University of Pisa and Photolux Festival for its cooperation. The festival's teaching project "Lucca Film Festival - Europa Cinema" - Linguaggi e pratica del cinema e dell'audiovisivo per la scuola in relation to the call for bids "*Bando: Cinema per la Scuola –Buone Pratiche, Rassegne e Festival*".

Main partner of the event: **MyMovies.it**

Media partner of the festival: **Movieplayer.it** e **Badtaste.it**

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PALMARES

Jury Award for the Best Feature Film (€ 3,000)

Murmur by Heather Young

Canada, 2019, 84', col.

Donna has recently been convicted of "Driving While Impaired" and is ordered to perform community service at the local animal shelter. When an elderly dog is scheduled to be euthanized, Donna decides to take the dog home to fill the emptiness she feels. Donna begins to take home more and more animals and she is soon in over her head.

Jury Award for the Best Short Film LFFEC (€ 500)

Anche gli uomini hanno fame by Francesco Lorusso, Gabriele Licchelli, Andrea Settembrini

Italy, 2019, 20', b/w col.

Between the end of the 60s and the early 70s Salento was one of the poorest regions in Italy. Hunger forced around 150,000 people to leave their homeland to seek fortune elsewhere. In Gagliano del Capo, a small village in the deep South, there are people who chose to leave and people who chose to stay.

Popular Jury and Student Jury Award for the Best Feature Film

Boy Meets Gun by Joost van Hezik

The Netherlands, 2019, 86'

Marteen Moreau is a university professor who has lost interest in everything and lives a life that he finds repetitive and boring. One day a robber loses his gun after having killed a cashier in a supermarket. Marteen finds the gun and his life changes forever.

Special mention Short films LFFEC

EX EQUO

A Janela by Patrícia Sobreiro

Portugal, 2019, 6'48'

A personal and intimate vision of a Window, that merges with the memory of a grandmother.

I heard silence from her by Geena Jung

South Korea, 2020, 28'14'', col.

In a town full of old houses, a kid's cry breaks through the silent town, causing the dogs to join with their barks. In a dark and narrow alley stands a very nervous girl.

Student Jury Award for the Best Short Film

Nunca te dejé sola by Mireia Noguera

Spain, 2019, 18'18'', col.

Claudia, a teenager who has always felt a strange aversion towards her mother, accompanies her to clean up their old family home, where they used to spend their summer. Once there, Claudia is haunted by ghosts of her past, seeing no other option but to face the truth she has avoided for all her life.